

63. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the distal portion of the core is tapered.
64. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the polymeric material comprises a radio-opaque material.
65. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil comprises a pitch that varies along the length of the core.
66. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil comprises a coating.
67. The guide wire of claim 66 wherein the coating is lubricious.
68. The guide wire of claim 66 wherein the coating is colored.
69. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil comprises a rectangular cross-section.
70. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil comprises a circular cross-section.
71. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the coil comprises a multifilar wire.
72. The guide wire of claim 71 wherein the multifilar wire is cross-wound.
73. The guide wire of claim 57 wherein the polymeric material comprises a tip surrounding a distal end of the core.
74. A guide wire comprising:
a core including a distal portion;
a coil surrounding the core and terminating proximal to the distal portion of the core; and
a polymeric material disposed on the distal portion of the core.

75. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil surrounds a portion of the core near a proximal end of the core.

76. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil surrounds a proximal end of the core.

77. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil extends along the length of the core from a portion of the core near a proximal end of the core to proximal of the distal portion of the core.

78. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises stainless steel.

79. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises a precipitation hardenable alloy.

80. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the distal portion of the core is tapered.

81. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the polymeric material comprises a radio-opaque material.

82. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises a pitch that varies along the length of the core.

83. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises a coating.

84. The guide wire of claim 83 wherein the coating is lubricious.

85. The guide wire of claim 83 wherein the coating is colored.

86. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises a rectangular cross-section.

87. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises a circular cross-section.

88. The guide wire of claim 74 wherein the coil comprises a multifilar wire.

09962004 092401
104260 40029660